

Hawaii MARINE LIFESTYLES

HAWAII MARINE B SECTION

APRIL 14, 2006



Skaters catch air

Christopher Holba, a 9-year-old, “gets air,” from a “vert” ramp at the Hickam Singapore Skateboard Hangar aboard Hickam Air Force Base. The “Hangar” is the only skate park on the island with a large, 30 foot wide by 60 foot long keyhole bowl.

**Story and Photos by
Lance Cpl. Roger L. Nelson**
Combat Correspondent

All across the United States, baseball and football fields are a dime a dozen and can be found within minutes. But for the people who like more extreme sports, finding a safe venue may be difficult.

Hickam Air Force Base has looked past the normal baseball diamond and has built a skateboard park inside an airplane hangar for those who like to live life “on the edge.”

“It’s called the Hickam Singapore Skateboard Hangar and is one of the largest skate parks found on Oahu,” said GeeMee L. Ige, park attendant, at the Hangar. “The park is home to the only keyhole bowl (a wooden, swimming-pool shaped ramp) in the state.”

She said it is 60 feet long and 30 feet wide and the closest bowl like this is in California.

According to Ige, the park was recently resurfaced and new ramps have been constructed.

“One of the new ramps is a bank roll-in (when dropping onto the ramp) to quarter-pipe to wedge bank that covers over 32 feet on the north end of the course,” said the Waipio Gentry, Hawaii native. “The course also has added a new ledge to the center pyramid, which travels down one side of the banked wall.”

Other ramps at the park include many different styles of vertical ramps and a large half pipe.

“The street course is the part of the park that I find to be the most difficult for me,” said Lance Cpl. Derek T. Mallow, admin clerk, Headquarters Company, 3rd Marine Regiment. “I’ve been skateboarding for eight years and pretty much skated vert ramps my whole life, so this park gives me a chance to work on skating in other areas and types of ramps.”

Skateboarders, people with scooters and roller bladers are permitted in the park as long as they have, or rent all of the appropriate safety gear which consists of kneepads, helmet and elbow pads, said Ige.

“If the person doesn’t have their own pads, we rent out pads at the park for a small price,” said Ige.

Renting each piece of safety equipment costs \$2 per item or all three pieces of equipment for \$5.

“I’ve ridden at a lot of skate parks when I lived in California, but this is honestly one of the best ones I’ve ridden,” said 20-year-old Mallow. “It’s really cheap to ride there, too. I’ve got my own equipment, so me and my boys will get together at least twice a week, usually on Saturday, and take a road trip to Hickam and will end up spending, like, a dollar for the whole day.”

“I love getting away from work and doing something that takes my mind off of my everyday problems,” said Lance Cpl. Christopher Lammers, cannonier, Bravo Battery, 1st Battalion, 12th Marine Regiment, here. “It also gives me a chance to practice, so I can work towards being more like the professional skateboarder, Shawn White. It would be cool to be able to tear it up on a skateboard like him.”

A liability waiver is available at the park and is mandatory to be on file for each patron who uses the park and must be updated annually. Additionally, youths must be at least 10 and carry a valid identification card in order to remain in the facility unaccompanied, explained Ige.

“It works out well for military personnel because only active duty military, military retirees, reservists, National Guardsmen, Department of Defense civilian employees and respective family members are eligible to use the park,” said Ige. “The base will sometimes open the base for events or contests that take place at the park.”

We’ve had a few professional skateboarders come here to skate and sign autographs for viewers, so the park is pretty well known.”

According to Ige, there are more additions being planned for the street course, in order to make a more challenging terrain for park users.

“The only complaint we ever get about the park is the fact that users want it opened later and on Mondays and Tuesdays,” said Ige.

For more information about the Hickam Singapore Skateboard Hangar, call the Skateboard Center at 448-4422 or the Community Center at 449-3354.



Squeak A. Scallaro kick flips over a ramp at the Hickam Singapore Skateboard Hangar.



The street course at the Hickam Singapore Skateboard Hangar is considered the most popular part of the park. The course has many different types of ramps, jumps and rails for riders to use. Officials plan to construct even more ramps and obstacles for the street course in the near future.

MCCS Briefs

www.mccshawaii.com

Kahuna’s Sports Bar & Grill
254-7660/7661

Tonight, Local bands Dagra, Crucible and Mister Meaner rock the house, starting at 10 p.m.

Ultimate Fighting Championships return. Don’t miss the UFC59 “Reality Check” featuring Tito Ortiz “The Huntington Beach Bad Boy” against Forrest Griffin, broadcast live from Arrowhead Pond in Anaheim via DirecTV starting at 4 p.m. Saturday. Doors open at 3 p.m.

Staff NCO Club
254-5481

Payday Lunch Buffet — Today from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., the Club will feature a buffet with different entrees for the next three months, so that patrons can comment on what items they enjoy most through a survey that will be made available that day. Member and nonmember pricing will apply.

Easter Champagne Brunch — Sunday from 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., the Club will feature live music and an Easter–egg hunt. Member and nonmember pricing will apply. Reservations are required. Call the club for more info.

Family Night offers children-friendly food in relaxed environment from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m., Thursdays.

The Officers’ Club
254-7650

Easter Sunday Brunch. The Officers’ Club will host an Easter Sunday brunch from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. by reservation only. Member and nonmember pricing applies.

All Hands

A Family Picnic and MarForPac Band Concert will be held April 21 at the Child Development Center from 6 to 7 p.m. The event is open to all military, DoD employees and their families and guests.

Easter-Egg Stravaganza The Base Library will host an egg event from 1 to 2 p.m. There will be Easter stories, crafts and treats. The event is open to all military, DoD employees and their families and guests.

Transition Assistance Program is required for service members separating from the military within the next six months. Spouses are also highly encouraged to attend. The sessions will take place in Building 279, Monday through Thursday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. each day. For more information, call 257-7790.

L.I.N.K.S. Training — Lifestyles, Insights, Networking, Knowledge and Skills is a class for spouses new to the island or the military lifestyle. L.I.N.K.S. provides basic information necessary to acquaint them with the unique aspects of the Marine Corps and Navy life. This two-day session will take place from 9 a.m. to noon, Tuesday through Wednesday at the L.I.N.K.S. House, Building 3074. For more information, call 257-2368.

Pre-ACT Practice Testing is being offered at the Joint Education Center in preparation for the official ACT. This session is open to all active duty military ID cardholders. Registration is required. Call 257-2158 for information.

Ongoing

Military Child Month specials will be available at Information Tickets and Tours. Roberts Hawaii will be offering “Buy two regular adult military price, get one military child (4 to 11) free” for the Magic of Polynesia show and Ali’i Kai Catamaran Dinner Cruises. For information and reservations, contact I.T.T. at 254-7563. These offers are available April 1 thru April 30.

Military awareness of Income Tax Refund Anticipation Loans

LIFELines Research Staff

Income tax Refund Anticipation Loans are nothing more than a costly version of a payday loan. Hundreds of military families that would never consider a payday loan are participating in RALs at interest rates from 40 to 700 percent, depending on the size of their expected refund. A recently conducted nationwide survey found that two-thirds of those who had signed up for an advanced same-day payment, from a tax-preparation company, did not realize that they had entered into a loan agreement with exorbitant interest rates and administrative fees. The most recent government analysis indicates that consumers paid more than \$1 billion in RAL loan interest fees and an additional \$389 million in administrative or application fees on top of the loan interest rate. Of particular concern, nearly 80 percent of these interest rates and fees were squeezed out of taxpayers with \$35,000 annual income or less, which covers a large segment of the junior enlisted population of the military. But even more disturbing are the thousands of military taxpayers who qualified for the Earned Income Tax Credit who took these loans. The Earned Income Tax Credit is for people who work, but do not earn high incomes. If they qualify and claim the credit, they pay less federal tax, pay no tax or even receive a refund beyond the amount of tax with-

held. EITC is intended to boost the income of those who work and qualify. Yet, more than half, 50 percent of those who are enticed into taking these Return Anticipation Loans are recipients of the Earned Income Tax Credit. With check–cashing fees and loan–interest rates, these citizens paid more than three-quarter of a billion dollars to get access to this government–sponsored benefit. A benefit distributed through our income-tax system and funded by the rest of the taxpayers. As a result, many states including Maryland, Connecticut, Arizona, New York, Ohio and Texas have passed laws or introduced legislation restricting rates or outlawing Refund Anticipation Loans. To protect a loss to the American taxpayers and the U.S. Treasury, a bill has been introduced in the U.S. Congress that would totally outlaw RALs if any portion of the loan is secured by Earned Income Tax Credit proceeds. According to the National Consumer Law Center 53 percent of those using RALs have a high school education or less. HBSC/Household has reported that a majority of their RAL participants have an average annual income of less than \$18,000. Jackson Hewitt reported that 73 percent of RAL consumers made less than \$30,000 annually. Conversely, less than 10 percent of those who earned \$75,000 annually and/or were college educated have ever participated in Return Anticipation Loans.

IRS offers filing assistance to 2005 hurricane victims

LIFELines Research Staff

Many taxpayers who were affected by hurricanes Katrina, Rita or Wilma face special challenges this filing season. These challenges may include retrieving copies of prior year tax returns or learning how to claim a casualty loss on a 2005 tax return. Whatever the issue, the Internal Revenue Service offers a number of channels of assistance to hurricane victims. For hurricane victims who need help with tax matters, the IRS has a dedicated toll free number to call, 1-866-562-5227. This is a one-stop shop offering help on multiple issues that arise for disaster victims. Similarly, their Web site, IRS.gov, features a special section with the new tax laws and

resources for hurricane victims, including answers to frequently asked questions. IRS.gov has links to "Tax Relief in Disaster Situations" and "Help for Katrina Victims." Taxpayers can also use this Web site to find Publication 4492, "Information for Taxpayers Affected by Hurricanes Katrina, Rita and Wilma," which will be available in late January. Free volunteer return preparation assistance is available for low- to moderate-income individuals through the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance and Tax Counseling for the Elderly programs. Call 1-800-829-1040 to find a location near you. Finally, help with return preparation or other basic tax services is available free or at

low cost through disaster relief agreements with the tax professional community, while IRS Taxpayer Assistance Centers can also provide help with tax matters to hurricane victims. Hurricane victims who have not been able to secure help through other channels may call the Taxpayer Advocate Service at 1-877-777-4778. For people interested in helping Hurricane Katrina victims, the IRS reminds taxpayers about a leave donation program it has established with employers. The leave donation program allows employees to help Katrina victims without having to make a cash donation. Taxpayers should check with their employers for more information on this program.

Turbo Tax; free to service members

Military OneSource and LIFELines

LIFELines and Military OneSource are promoting TurboTax Essentials and TurboTax Basic at no cost to service members. TurboTax allows you to quickly file your taxes. It walks you through the process step-by-step, asking simple questions in plain English. Your answers are put on the right IRS and state tax forms. All the math is done for you, and all the forms you’re likely to need are included. To access your 2005 W-2, visit the myPay — Web site. Helpful Hint: Have the following items available before you start Turbo Tax: Social Security numbers for you, your spouse and dependents Child care, education and adoption costs W-2 forms for all employers for you and your spouse Investment income forms Alimony information

Social Security benefits Miscellaneous income Form 1098-E for student loan interest Form 1098 for home mortgage interest Charitable donations Medical and dental expenses Real estate taxes For a complete list, visit the TurboTax Web site and the tax preparation checklist. To prepare your taxes online, go to TurboTax.intuit.com. In order to use the service you will have to provide a user I.D. and password. (The products or services available from links on LIFELines and/or Military OneSource Online are provided by vendors "as is." Ceridian Corporation [private contractor of Military OneSource] expressly disclaims all warranties, expressed or implied, including, without limitation, any implied warranty of merchantability or fitness for a particular purpose.)



IRS deduction changes for car donations to organizations

LIFELines Research Staff and the IRS

If you donate a vehicle (including a boat or aircraft) to a qualified organization after December 31, 2004, your deduction is limited to the gross proceeds from its sale by the organization. This rule applies if the claimed value of the donated vehicle is more than \$500. However, you generally can deduct its fair market value if the organization: 1. Makes significant intervening use of the vehicle, 2. Materially improves the vehicle, or 3. Transfers the vehicle to a needy individual in direct furtherance of the donee's charitable purpose of relieving the poor and distressed or underprivileged who are in need of a means of transportation. Boats, aircraft, and other vehicles.

These rules also apply to donations of boats, aircraft, and any other vehicle manufactured mainly for use on public streets, roads, and highways. Acknowledgement required. If the claimed value of the car is more than \$500, you must have a written acknowledgement of your donation from the organization and must attach it to your return. If you do not have an acknowledgement, you cannot deduct your contribution. The acknowledgement must include the following information: 1. Your name and taxpayer identification number. 2. The vehicle identification number or similar number. 3. A statement certifying the car was sold in an arm's length transaction between unrelated parties.

4. The gross proceeds from the sale. 5. A statement that your deduction may not be more than the gross proceeds from the sale. 6. The date of the contribution. However, if there was significant intervening use of or material improvement to the car by the organization, the acknowledgement does not have to include the information in items 3, 4, and 5 above. Instead, it must contain a certification of the intended use of or material improvement to the car and the intended duration of that use and a certification that the vehicle will not be transferred in exchange for money, other property, or services before completion of that use or improvement. This acknowledgement must be provided within 30 days of the sale of the car or, if there is significant intervening use or material improvement of the car by the organization, within 30 days of the contribution.

MOVIE TIME

Prices: For Friday and Saturday shows at 7:15, prices are \$3 for adults, 12 and older; \$1.50 for children 6 to 11. Matinee prices are \$2 for adults, \$1 for children. Parents must purchase tickets for R-rated movies in person at the box office for children 16-years-old and younger. Prices for Sunday, Wednesday shows at 6:30 and Friday and Saturday shows at 9:45 are \$2 for adults and \$1.50 for children. Show your ID card when purchasing tickets. Entry is free for children 5 and younger. **Sneak Preview Policy:** One hour and 45 minutes prior to the movie, tickets will be issued to first priority patrons waiting in line, then second and third priority patrons. In an effort to prevent piracy, the following security measures will be enforced on base for sneak preview screenings: bag checks, confiscation of cameras or cell phones with picture taking capability (items will be returned after screening), magnetometer wand, audience scanning with night vision goggles during screening. The Base Theater and film companies thank you in advance for your cooperation and hope you will enjoy the show. For recorded information, call the Base Theater at 254-7642.

Eight Below (PG)
Date Movie (PG-13)
The Pink Panther (PG)
Running Scared (R)
Eight Below (PG)
Date Movie (PG-13)
Freedomland (R)
Madea’s Family Reunion (PG-13)
Running Scared (R)

Today at 7:15 p.m.
Today at 9:45 p.m.
Saturday at 7:15 p.m.
Saturday at 9:45 p.m.
Sunday at 2:00 p.m.
Sunday at 6:30 p.m.
Wednesday at 6:30 p.m.
Friday at 7:15 p.m.
Friday at 9:45 p.m.

Marine finds career in the corps

Lance Cpl. Roger L. Nelson
Combat Correspondent

Every choice a person makes can possibly change their life for better or for worst, and some can even be lifesaving.

Corporal Giovanni Dominguez, legal/administration clerk, S-1, Headquarters Battalion, here, said he joined the Marines in order to make a better life for himself and get off the streets.

“During high school, I played baseball and football, but knew I wasn’t going to become anything from that,” said the 22-year-old. “I didn’t grow up in the best place in the world and knew if I went to college, I would never go to class, because all I wanted to do was party.

“It wasn’t easy growing up with all these negative things around me. It was really survival of the fittest,” he said. “It’s rough, because if you try to excel and become something more, then you get picked on for being a ‘nerd’ or a ‘goody goody.’ My parents worked all the time and when that happens, the streets are what ends up raising you, and I just wanted to get away from that lifestyle.”

According to Dominguez, a high school teacher is the person who had the biggest influence on his decision to enlist.

“I spoke with the Army recruiter first, and then spoke with the Marine’s recruiter and realized I wanted to be a Marine,” said the Hostos Lincoln Academy of Scientist school graduate. “The fact that the Marine Corps is known as the hardest was one of my main reasons I picked them. I guess ‘curiosity killed the cat.’”

Dominguez arrived at Marine Corps Recruit Depot, Parris Island, S.C., Sept. 4, 2001, for recruit training.

“My parent’s didn’t mind me joining the Marines at first, but then the September 11 attacks happened while I was in boot camp and they changed their minds,” said the Bronx, N.Y. native. “After boot camp, MCT (Marine Combat Training), and my MOS (Military Occupational Specialty) school, I was stationed in Quantico, Virgina. After that, I decided to reenlist, and that’s when my family was the most upset.”

Dominguez said, at first, he just wanted to get his four years done and get out, but now he just wants to continue his career.

“I want to be able to get everything I can out of the Marine Corps, whether it be college, leadership abilities or knowledge,” said Dominguez. “I figured the hardest parts are over. So why not do it again?”

Dominguez reported into HQBN July 27, 2005, and said he now deals with a lot of Marines’ legal problems.

Dominguez said, once he arrives to work in the morning, he does a lot of work on punishments Marines may receive.

“It’s hard, because I love helping Marines, whether they’re my Marines or not. But some of the things people get in trouble for are ridiculous. I understand Marines are going to make mistakes, but things like being a deserter is cowardly. I don’t think people should give up and run away from their problems. Stick it out and take it like a man, and some day you may be in charge.”

Dominguez said he thinks he is a very fair leader and his leadership traits are what they are due to his leaders.

“I took all the style of leadership traits from Marines that have been over me, and I put them all together to have the leadership qualities I do

today,” Dominguez said. “I’d say I’m a work hard; play hard kind of Marine. Once your stuff’s done there’s no reason why you shouldn’t be able to have a little fun.”

Dominguez is a motivated Marine who is very competent, said Capt. Peter Baker, battalion adjutant, HQBN.

“He does very good at what he does and is a fast learner,” said Baker. “There’s a lot to learn in this job, and he has no problem catching on.”

Dominguez is currently enrolled in college at Chaminade University and is working toward earning an associate’s degree in Criminal Justice.

“I’m not sure if I’m going to continue my career in the Marines, but, if possible, I’d like to get a degree before this enlistment is done, because I want to be in the FBI,” said Dominguez. “But whether I reenlist or not, the Marine Corps has been a good building block for me and has changed me for the better. The Marine Corps isn’t for everyone, but it is a good way to prove a lot of different things to yourself instead of taking the easy way out. That’s why we’re considered the ‘few and the proud.’ Not everyone has what it takes to be a Marine.”

1/3 corpsmen credited with saving two Afghan girls injured by land mine

Sgt. Joe Lindsay
Combat Correspondent

JALALABAD, Afghanistan - Two Afghan sisters, 10 and 8, were recently injured when a Soviet-era land mine exploded after one of the girls picked up the device, possibly thinking it was a toy.

The incident occurred near Jalalabad Airfield, and upon receiving word that two small Afghan girls were hurt in the explosion, hospital corpsmen from 1st Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment, based out of Marine Corps Base Hawaii, sprung into action.

“Two of our corpsmen immediately grabbed their gear and sprinted a mile and a half to the scene,” said Chief Petty Officer Claude English, enlisted senior medical department representative, 1/3. “They saved the lives of those girls – literally,” admitted the New Orleans native.

The two corpsmen – Seaman Michael Ewing, from Mount Laurel, N.J., and Seaman Charles Mark, from Dinuba, Calif., both hospital corpsmen said it was a good thing they got there when they did.

“Myself and HN Mark were the first corpsmen on the scene,” said Ewing. “The fingers of the older sister were hanging off her hand, as she was bleeding from shrapnel wounds to her legs, face and neck. The younger sister had shrapnel injuries to her lower extremities. Both girls were pretty decently injured, but the older sister was in a more critical state.”

“We immediately started treating the girls, starting with the older sister who was in worse shape,” said Mark. “We stabilized her and then had her transported back to our medical facility at JAF. From there, the girls were airlifted to Bagram Airfield. They are both going to be OK.”

Thanks, in no small part, to the efforts of



Sgt. Joe Lindsay

Seaman Michael Ewing, hospital corpsmen (left), from Mount Laurel, N.J., and Seaman Charles Mark, from Dinuba, Calif., share a happy moment together shortly following their aid of two Afghan sisters, 10 and 8, who were severely wounded by a Soviet-era land mind outside of Jalalabad Airfield, Afghanistan. Both corpsmen are currently serving in Afghanistan with 1st Battalion 3rd Marine Regiment in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

Ewing and Mark, noted Navy Lt. Aric Aghayan, battalion surgeon, 1/3.

“It was a great exercise in teamwork,” said Aghayan, a native of Shawnee, Kan. “HN Ewing and HN Mark did an excellent job. Both corpsmen kept their cool and let their training come

into play. I am very impressed by these two corpsmen and by the job all our corpsmen have been doing since we got to Afghanistan.”

“It’s a natural corpsman instinct to want to help people,” added English. “We want to help people who are hurt. It’s not just our job – it’s

who we are. This incident could have had an entirely different outcome were it not for the quick and capable response of our corpsmen. It gives me goose bumps and a lot of pride knowing these corpsmen with 1/3 saved those two little girls.”

According to Aghayan, the land mine which injured the girls is one of millions of such devices which plague the Afghanistan countryside.

“Afghanistan is the most heavily land mind-country in the entire world,” said Aghayan. “There are literally millions and millions of unexploded ordnance and land mines throughout this country that have remained here since the Soviet war.”

“The land mine that injured these girls is called a ‘toe-popper,’” continued Aghayan. “The reason it is called a ‘toe-popper’ is because if you step on one, it will blow off your toes. It is designed to maim its victims. It is very small and doesn’t look menacing, but it brings damage and destruction.”

According to Aghayan, the two Afghan sisters could have easily mistaken the land mine for a toy.

“The little girls were actually playing with it when it went off,” commented Aghayan.

As impressed as Aghayan said he was with Ewing and Mark, it was the elder sister who he said truly amazed him.

“The older girl, who was no more than 10, was incredibly stoic and brave and kept her cool the entire time,” observed Aghayan. “Before she was airlifted to Bagram for surgery, she said something to us, which our interpreter translated as, “God bless you guys for helping me and my sister.”

“That is all the thanks we would ever need,” continued Aghayan. “That pretty much sums up what being a corpsman is all about.”

Thrifty and nifty



Courtesy photo

The All Enlisted Spouses Club Thrift Shop celebrated 51 years of service on base Saturday. A bag sale was held in celebration of the event and raised more than \$800. All proceeds went to a local charity. According to Suzie Thompson, president AESC and spouse of Gunnery Sgt. Daniel Thompson, Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron 463, all members were out in force to make sure the event was a success.

Marine unfazed by combat injuries received in Iraq

Sgt. Roe F. Seigle
1st Marine Division

HADITHA, Iraq — Lance Cpl. Matt Calvert accepts the wound he received March 25 from a rocket-propelled grenade attack in Iraq. He said, it comes with the territory of being a Marine in a combat zone.

The infantryman from Blue Springs, Mo., said he was unfazed by the wound that was caused when insurgents attacked his unit's patrol in western Al Anbar Province.

"I did not hear the insurgent fire the RPG (rocket-propelled grenade) until the round exploded against the wall near me," said the 22-year-old.

Calvert was injured when shrapnel from a rocket-propelled grenade caught him in the chest and neck when his platoon came under attack in this Euphrates River Valley city.

According to accounts, he was providing security at an intersection of two major roads in the heart of Haditha when his platoon, part of the Hawaii-based 3rd Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment, was attacked. The small-arms attack came as the Marines were leaving the city to return to their forward operating base here, he said.

Reflecting on the incident several days later at the Marines' base here, Calvert credits his body armor for saving his life. If it wasn't for the thick, armored plates in his vest, he's certain the shrapnel could have been lethal, he said.

"I was full of adrenaline, so I did not feel any pain at all," said Calvert, who also saw combat during a deployment to Afghanistan last year. "I remember feeling a sharp pain in my shoulder blade under my protective vest. I knew something had penetrated it."

As he spoke, he held his M16 A4 service rifle closely. His weapon never left his side, he said.

Calvert and the rest of the battalion's Marines arrived in Iraq about a month ago. At that time, they focused their efforts on disrupting insurgent activity in the "Triad" region of Hadithah,

Haqliniyah, and Barwanah — three of the most populous towns in the area.

Though previous Marine units have spent more than a year combating the insurgency here, there is still more work to be done, as evidenced by the recent attack on Calvert's platoon as well as the frequent improvised explosive devices the Marines have encountered since arriving here.

But while IEDs and occasional insurgent attacks are nothing new to Coalition Forces operating in Al Anbar Province, Calvert's perseverance in the face of danger seemed to have inspired others in the unit — a testament that one man's actions can inspire others.

Cpl. Robert Janson, 22, witnessed the attack. He was on patrol with Calvert that day, and said he could not believe Calvert's reaction to the attack.

"Calvert just brushed this attack on his life off like it was nothing," said, one of the unit's squad leaders. "All he cared about was getting back out on patrol four hours later too find those responsible for the attack."

After reinforcements were called out to the scene of the attack, Calvert's wounds were treated and he was medically evacuated to the Marines' base here. Though he's still recovering, his wounds have not deterred him from helping the Iraqi people and finding those responsible for the attack, he said.

"The only thing the insurgents accomplished that day was to heighten the Marines' awareness to an even higher level and make them more determined to hunt them down and bring them to justice," Calvert said.

More importantly, such attacks will not hinder the progress of the Iraqi Army or the growth of Iraqi communities here, said Calvert. The Marines here are suppressing the few insurgents that remain in the area, he said. all the more reason he can't wait for his injuries to heal — to get back in the action.

"If you think about (the wounds) too much, that can affect you even more than the physical injuries," said Calvert.

While his injuries are healing,

Calvert added that telling his family — especially his mother — what happened was more painful than his wounds.

"She took it well," he said. "She understands why I am out here, and all she wants is for me to come home safe."

Even though he's injured, Calvert still keeps the sense of humor he is known for in his unit, keeping morale up with his witty banter, according to his unit members.

"We can still count on him to drop his one-liners that make us all laugh," said Calvert's squad leader. "He is a great Marine and can be counted on for anything. He brings morale to the squad with his level of motivation and his sense of humor."

Humor aside, Calvert takes his job, and the welfare of his fellow Marines, who he calls his "brothers," quite seriously.

"I am focused on becoming a corporal ... and leading troops," said Calvert, whose brown eyes give away his seriousness on the subject, as does the slightly deeper tone in his voice when he speaks of other Marines in his unit.

"Calvert is going to make a good leader of Marines," agreed his squad leader.

A promotion to corporal would make Calvert a noncommissioned officer — a small-unit leader.

But for this two-time combat veteran, leadership means more than adding another stripe to the black, metal rank insignia on his collar. For Calvert, a promotion means added responsibility to protect his Marines and ensure their mission is complete before they return to their base in Hawaii later this year.

"I am not going to hold onto the fact that I was hurt, and I, or another one of the Marines, can be hurt again," he said. "I am going to accomplish my mission here and return home to my family. That is also what I am going to make sure the other Marines are going to do."



Sgt. Roe F. Seigle

Lance Cpl. Matt Calvert, a 22-year-old from Blue Springs, Mo., said he is unfazed by wounds he received in Iraq's western Al Anbar province, March 25. The Marine infantryman was wounded when shrapnel from a rocket-propelled grenade caught him in the chest and neck when his platoon's patrol in Haditha, Iraq, came under attack from insurgents. Calvert is currently deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom with the Hawaii-based 3rd Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment.

Lifelines network now audio capable

LIFELines Press Release

WASHINGTON, D.C. – In a continuing effort to stay on the cutting edge of on-the-go, on-demand technology, and to make its award-winning content available whenever and wherever users choose to listen, the LIFELines Services Network Web site is now audio-capable.

This variation of podcasting allows users to download MP3 audio files of professionally narrated articles either directly to their computer or to a personal listening device such as an MP3 player.

"Through the use of this relatively inexpensive technology, young service members are able to download useful information from sites such as LIFELines for review and action at a more convenient time," said retired Navy Captain Bill Hendrix, director, LIFELines Services Network.

Instructions for downloading and saving MP3's:

Using your mouse, right-click on the MP3 icon located to the right of the article title, Select 'Save Target as...',

In the 'Save As' window, navigate to the desired file save destination,

NOTE: If your personal listening device (i.e.; MP3 player or other PLD) is connected to your PC, you may save the file to this device directly (depending on the device's capabilities)

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Since its inception in January 1999, LIFELines has received numerous awards and citations. The LIFELines Services Network is a real-time, online multi-media Quality of Life services delivery system that provides Sailors, Marines and their families with "equal access to high-quality QOL services regardless of duty location."

Those interested in LIFELines Services Network, contact: Rudy Brewington (rudolph.brewington@doditc.lifelines.usmc.mil) at 202-433-3865

Artists perform at Hickam

Staff Sgt. Sarah Kinsman

15th Airlift Wing Public Affairs

HICKAM AIR FORCE BASE, Hawaii — The Patriot World Tour comes to Hickam, Monday.

The tour, including Lee Greenwood, Restless Heart, Dick Hardwick, Mary Therese and the New England Patriots Cheerleaders, performs on the Mall aboard Hickam Air Force Base beginning at 6 p.m. Monday. All DOD card holders are invited to attend the event.

The tour kicked off April 5 at Incirlik Air Base, Turkey; Kadena Air Base, Japan; Kunsan Air Base, Korea; Misawa Air Base, Japan; three deployed locations in Southwest Asia and completing their tour here at Hickam.

Headquarters, United States Central Command; Headquarters U.S. Air Forces in

Europe; Headquarters Pacific Air Forces and Headquarters Air Force Reserve Command are co-sponsoring the tour. The Air Force Band of the Pacific has been instrumental in helping to coordinate the Pacific portion of the tour.

The event's opening act is a Combined Air Forces Band. Lee Greenwood, best known for his hit song "God Bless the USA," will perform. Restless Heart will also perform some of their hit songs such as "Bluest Eyes in Texas," "When She Cries" and "Feel My Way to You."

Due to stage construction and the event, traffic will not be allowed to go up or down Eighth or Ninth streets. Julian and Porter avenues will be closed off where they intersect, shuttles will be available from the Burger King and Base Exchange parking lots. Food booths will be available.



Courtesy photo

Lee Greenwood entertains service members at a Kuwait concert earlier this year.

ON THE MENU

AT ANDERSON HALL



Today
Lunch
Pepper steak
Southern fried catfish
Rice pilaf
Potatoes au gratin
Glazed carrots
Simmered black-eyed peas
Brown gravy
Sugar cookies
Fruit pie

Pasta specialty bar

Dinner
Roast turkey
Beef pot pie
Mashed potatoes
Buttered egg noodles
Calico corn
Simmered broccoli
Savory bread dressing
Turkey gravy
Cranberry sauce
Sugar cookies
Fruit pie

Saturday
Dinner
Baked lasagna
Chicken parmesan
Spaghetti noodles
Marinara sauce
Italian mixed vegetables
Simmered peas and carrots
Pizza slices
Garlic bread
Marble cake
Fruit pie

Sunday
Dinner
Barbeque beef cubes
Baked turkey and noodles
Steamed rice
Creole green beans
Simmered cabbage
Tomato gravy
Ginger molasses cookies
Spice cake

Monday
Lunch
Meat loaf
Pork ham roast
Steamed rice
Mashed potatoes
Simmered peas
French fried cauliflower
Brown gravy
Chocolate chip cookies
Fruit pie

Pasta specialty bar

Dinner
Beef brogul
Fresh baked Cajun fish
Mashed potatoes

Rice pilaf
Club spinach
Mixed vegetables
Brown gravy
Chocolate chip cookies
Fruit Pie

Tuesday
Lunch
Simmered corned beef
Honey glazed Cornish hens
Parsley buttered potatoes
Fried cabbage
Simmered carrots
Egg noodles
Chicken gravy
Peanut butter cake

Taco specialty bar

Dinner
Turkey pot pie
Sweet & sour pork
Steamed rice
Jefferson noodles
Simmered broccoli
Simmered pinto beans
Turkey gravy
Chow mein noodles
Peanut butter cake
Fruit pie

Wednesday
Lunch
Pork adobo
Beef yakisoba
Pork fried rice
Vegetable stir fry
Corn O'Brien
Oatmeal cookies
Strawberry shortcake
Fruit pie

Hot dog specialty bar

Dinner
Steak smothered with onions
Southern fried catfish
Mashed potatoes
Baked macaroni and cheese
Southern-style green beans
Peas and carrots
Brown gravy
Oatmeal cookies
Strawberry shortcake
Fruit pie

Thursday
Lunch
Turkey a la king
Beef porcupines
Mashed potatoes
Boiled egg noodles
French fried okra
Simmered mixed vegetables
Turkey gravy
Tomato gravy
Marble cake
Pineapple upside down cake
Fruit pies

Taco specialty bar

Dinner
Braised liver with onions
El rancho stew
Honey ginger chicken
Rice pilaf
Boiled egg noodles
Lyonnaise carrots
Club spinach
Chicken gravy
Marble cake
Pineapple upside down cake

MARINE MAKEPONO

HAWAIIAN FOR
“MARINE BARGAINS”

Garage Sale

Furniture and other items, Saturday 7 a.m. to noon at 6382 B Nueku Street. Call 257-0410.

Miscellaneous

Andis Dog Grooming Clipper Kit, \$25 barely used. V-Smile Education Video System, includes game cartridges, extra joystick and adapter, \$70. Hooked on Phonics, 5 levels, \$100. Call 226-2470.

Full size toddler bed, \$1,750 or best offer. Toddler car bed, \$50. OBO. Toddler swing, \$7 OBO. Diaper changer top holder for a dresser, \$10.

Hawaii Marine Ads

Ads are accepted from active duty and retired military personnel, their family members and MCB Hawaii civil service employees.

Ads are free, but should consist of no more than 20 words. Ads will appear in two issues of the Hawaii Marine, on a space available basis. Those interested in advertising must bring a valid DoD-issued ID to the Hawaii Marine office.

The deadline for submitting ads to the Hawaii Marine is 4 p.m. the Friday of the week prior to publication.

Makepono may be used only for noncommercial classified ads containing items of personal property.

Forms may be filled out Monday through Friday between 7:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. at the MCB Hawaii Public Affairs Office, located in Building 216 aboard Kaneohe Bay.

Ads are run on a first-come, first-served basis.

To renew an ad or for more information, call the Hawaii Marine office at 257-8837 or 257-8835.



Volunteers needed



Special Olympics Hawaii is currently recruiting volunteers for the 2006 State Summer Games to be held May 26 to 28 at the University of Hawaii at Manoa.

Special Olympic athletes work very hard to overcome many challenges ... and they can with your support.

You can help to build self-esteem, instilled pride, and bring joy to the lives of hundreds of Special Olympics Hawaii athletes!

Whether you are looking for inspiration or you want to inspire, Special Olympics can touch your life!

For information on how to volunteer, visit www.specialolympicshawaii.org, or contact Cindy at 943-8808, ext. 27.

